



Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive
Petersburg, AK 99833

Meeting Agenda Public Safety Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday, March 13, 2025

12:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

1. You are invited to a Zoom webinar!
When: March 13, 2025 12:00 PM Alaska
Topic: Public Safety Advisory Board Meeting

Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android:

<https://petersburgak.gov.zoom.us/j/87285787691?pwd=ZFKad5dHEgSxX94sDirduuLEPzIOnp.1>

Passcode:948085

Join via audio:

(253) 215-8782 or (720) 707-2699

Webinar ID: 872 8578 7691

Passcode: 948085

2. **Call to Order / Roll Call**

- A. September 20, 2024 Public Safety Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**

3. **Approval of Minutes**

4. **Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda**

5. **Persons to be Heard Related to Agenda**

6. **Persons to be Heard Unrelated to Agenda**

7. **Staff Report**

- A. Police Department Report**

Chief Kerr will update the Board on Police Department activities. A copy of the Department's 2024 Annual Report is also provided in this meeting packet.

- B. Fire Department Update**

Emergency Services Director Hankins is not able to attend today's meeting but has provided a copy of the Department's 2024 Annual Report.

8. Unfinished Business

9. New Business

A. Dolphin Street Crosswalk Lighting

Local residents, Dave and Tanya Thynes, request the Borough provide lighting dedicated specifically to the crosswalks that cross Dolphin Street directly in front of the Rae C. Stedman Elementary School east and west entrances. The crosswalks do have crossing guards, but there are students who arrive before and leave after the crossing guards are on duty. During the winter months, that stretch of Dolphin Street is very dark when students arrive and leave school, and one of the Thyneses was nearly struck by a vehicle while crossing in the west crosswalk before school started. The Thyneses request lighting that is centered on each of the two crosswalks and possibly flashing amber lights as a reminder for drivers to be very alert while driving through the student drop off zone.

B. 4-Way Stop Signs on Ira II Street

Local residents, Dave and Tanya Thynes, request 4-way stop signs be installed on Ira II Street at the 4th and 6th Street intersections to deter speeding on Ira II Street, which currently has no stop signs at all between 2nd and 8th Streets.

C. Handicap Parking During Special Events

Board Member Havrilek would like to discuss handicap parking during special events.

D. Hospital Alarm System

Member Tuccillo would like to discuss the Hospital alarm system.

10. Communications

11. Discussion Items

A. Address Identification

Member Tuccillo would like to discuss the status of updating the ordinance requiring address identification.

12. Adjourn



Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive
Petersburg, AK 99833

Meeting Minutes Public Safety Advisory Board

Friday, September 20, 2024

12:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

Chair Lichtenberger called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Chair John Lichtenberger
Vice Chair Mark Tuccillo
Board Member Devren Bennett
Board Member Stan Hjort
Board Member John Havrilek

2. Approval of Minutes

There were no minutes available for approval.

3. Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda

The meeting agenda was approved as submitted.

Motion made by Board Member Bennett, Seconded by Board Member Havrilek.
Voting Yea: Chair Lichtenberger, Vice Chair Tuccillo, Board Member Bennett, Board Member Hjort, Board Member Havrilek

4. Persons to be Heard Related to Agenda

No views were shared.

5. Persons to be Heard Unrelated to Agenda

No views were shared.

6. Staff Report

A. EMS Personnel / Roster / On Call System Report

Emergency Services Director Hankins reported there are 10 available volunteer EMS personnel in town currently. The department changed from a shift schedule to an on-

call schedule for responders. A recent recruitment drive has brought a few more people willing to volunteer after their training is completed. The PVFD has also voted to pursue stipends for the volunteers. Director Hankins requests anyone interested in joining the department as an EMS volunteer contact him at the Fire Station (907-772-3355).

B. Medical Dispatch Program Report

Emergency Services Director Hankins reported the medical dispatch program is still in the process of being implemented. Turnover in the Police dispatch department has hindered progress of late.

7. Unfinished Business

8. New Business

A. Safe Watercraft Operation Training

Emergency Services Director Hankins requested the Board discuss (and possibly make a recommendation to the Assembly) whether or not the Borough should pursue an ordinance providing that all local commercial boat rental agencies require proof of completion of a national or state approved boater's safety course in order to rent a powered boat in the Borough.

After much discussion, the Board unanimously approved to draft a letter to the Alaska Office of Boating Safety recommending they initiate a proof of completion of a national or state approved boater safety course program for all motorized watercraft renters in Alaska. The draft letter will be brought back to the Board for approval before it is sent.

Motion made by Vice Chair Tuccillo, Seconded by Board Member Havrilek.
Voting Yea: Chair Lichtenberger, Vice Chair Tuccillo, Board Member Bennett, Board Member Hjort, Board Member Havrilek

B. Local Request to Close Severson's Subdivision to Vehicle Traffic for Trick-or-Treating on Halloween

Police Chief Kerr received a request from a local resident to close Severson's Subdivision to vehicle traffic during trick-or-treating this year. The Board was asked to weigh in on this idea.

By unanimous roll call vote, the Board agreed not to block the streets to vehicular traffic during trick or treating, to offer alternatives such a neighborhood watch, and draft a notice for the newspaper to watch out for kids during the hours of trick or treating on Halloween.

Motion made by Board Member Bennett, Seconded by Vice Chair Tuccillo.
Voting Yea: Chair Lichtenberger, Vice Chair Tuccillo, Board Member Bennett, Board Member Hjort, Board Member Havrilek

C. Revision and/or Enforcement of Municipal Code Chapter 13.08 Recommendation

The Board learned there is a new version of Borough Code Chapter 13.08 waiting for approval to make its way through the ordinance process and requested Community & Economic Development Director Cabrera provide them an update on the revised ordinance at their next meeting.

Motion made by Vice Chair Tuccillo, Seconded by Board Member Havrilek.
Voting Yea: Chair Lichtenberger, Vice Chair Tuccillo, Board Member Bennett, Board Member Hjort, Board Member Havrilek

9. Communications

There were no communications.

10. Discussion Items

Emergency Services Director Hankins shared information with the Board regarding an unfunded mandate by the Federal OSHA that will make changes to the Fire Brigade Standards which will negatively affect our Volunteer Fire Department tremendously. A letter is being drafted for the Assembly's approval in opposition to the mandate.

The Board discussed the new electric rental scooters in town that are being used on the sidewalks and the side of the highway. The question of whether Petersburg had an ordinance prohibiting bikes on sidewalks was asked, and if so, it was suggested a reminder be printed in the local newspaper and that the ordinance be updated to include electric bikes and electric scooters.

11. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

Motion made by Board Member Bennett, Seconded by Vice Chair Tuccillo.
Voting Yea: Chair Lichtenberger, Vice Chair Tuccillo, Board Member Bennett, Board Member Hjort, Board Member Havrilek

2024 Petersburg Police Department

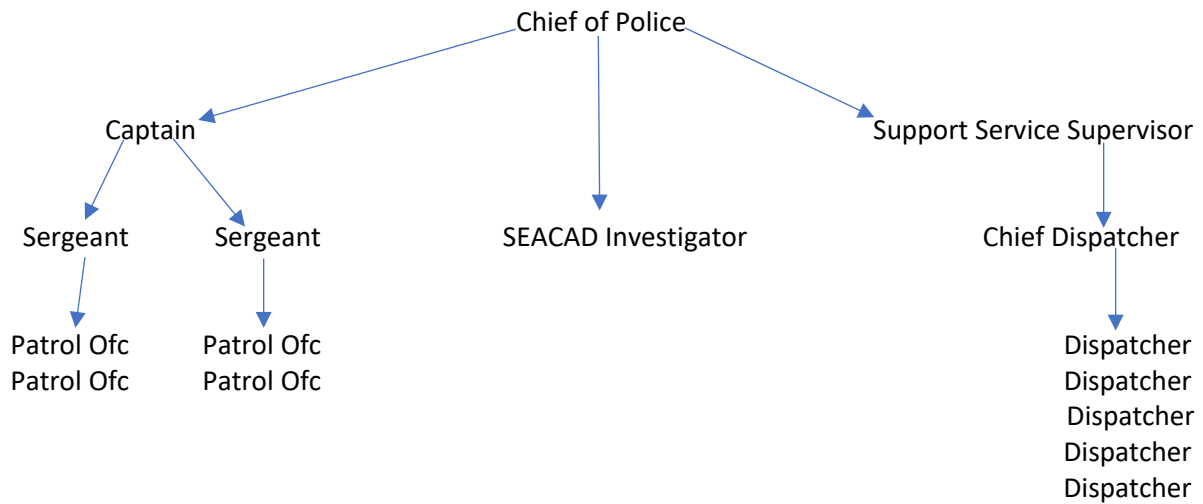


Annual Report

Message from Chief James Kerr

The Petersburg Police Department is made up of caring and courageous professionals who are committed to treating everyone with dignity and respect. Petersburg Police Department enjoys its strong support from Community Members, Borough Manager and Borough Assembly. It's through public trust and community support that the Petersburg Police Department can provide a safe environment for our community and visitors. I'm proud of the men and women of the Petersburg Police Department and feel fortunate to serve the community alongside them as we work in partnership with community members to keep Petersburg a safe and thriving community.

Current Organization Chart of Dispatch and Officers, showing all approved positions.



Petersburg Police Department provides 24/7 coverage to the Petersburg Community utilizing 36/48-hour work weeks. This scheduling allows for maximum coverage, flexibility and training while reducing overtime.

Police Academy 2024

- No officers attended police academy in 2024 for certification.
- Officer attended ALET 24-02 as a TAC Officer.
- Provided Firearms Instruction at the ALET Academy.

Training Received in 2024

- PLS Dispatch Pro January
- PLS Dispatch Pro February
- PLS Dispatch Pro March
- PLS Dispatch Pro April
- PLS Dispatch Pro May
- PLS Dispatch Pro June
- PLS Dispatch Pro July
- PLS Dispatch Pro August
- PLS Dispatch Pro September
- PLS Dispatch Pro October
- PLS Dispatch Pro November
- PLS Dispatch Pro December
- Tactical Building Entry with Anchorage's FBI Tactical Team
- WRTC Tactical Medicine, stopping critical bleeds and stabilizing injuries
- Advanced Law Enforcement Sniper Course (K&M)
- Active Shooter 1
- Active Shooter 2
- Active Shooter 3
- Active Shooter 4
- Active Shooter Phases and Prevention
- Investigating Impaired Driving
- Current Drug Trends
- De-escalation and Reasonable Use of Force
- K-9 Operations
- Spanish for Law Enforcement
- All Things K9
- Arrest, Search, & Seizure (Fourth Amendment)
- Intoximeter-PBT
- Reid Technique of Investigative Interviewing and Positive Persuasion
- Pepper Ball Training
- 40mm Less Lethal Training
- Control Tactics
- Room Clearing
- CPR/First Aid
- WAVE Training-Children Grooming Training
- Social Media Liability Training
- Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training

Instructor Level Training Received 2024

-Effective Fitness Combatives- Level 1 Instructor Course

Instruction Provided by Petersburg PD 2024

- Taser 7 user course/class
- Firearms Instruction
- 40mm Less Lethal Training
- Alice Training
- Pepper Ball Training
- Control Tactics
- Low Light Range Quals
- Normal Range Quals and Training
- Room Clearing

Filed Training Provided by Police Officers and Dispatchers 2024

- Dispatcher Communications Training for 2.5 Employees
- 1 Officer completed a Modified Lateral FTO process.

Total Calls for Service (Police) (rpcdtccr.x1 PETZ)

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
3,180	3,394	3,226	2,931	2,922	2,995	3,279

Calls for Service	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault	6	5	7	5	0	1	1
Robbery	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assault (Not DV)	33	16	14	15	10	8	7
Agency Assist	154	268	396	439	480	345	356
Abandoned Vehicle	34	32	14	33	10	22	21
Animal Problems (to include bears)	140	140	100	66	131	173	253
Domestic Violence	18	21	19	26	16	9	8
DVPO Service	22	24	67	23	20	12	18
Disturbance	239	210	229	125	120	150	186
Burglary	16	16	13	7	6	7	1
Fraud	24	44	20	18	28	14	10
Criminal Mischief	22	10	14	9	16	12	5
Citizen Assist	179	215	274	338	335	348	368
Theft	76	86	76	52	39	32	44

Motor Vehicle Accidents	67	42	41	50	41	40	45
Harassment	29	15	20	20	16	19	18
Theft Motor Vehicle	9	1	3	2	1	4	2
Lost/Found Property	219	216	159	205	149	119	119
Parking Problem	97	108	49	83	72	43	57
Welfare Check	451	424	217	281	284	115	91
Suspicious Circumstances	293	289	244	194	199	323	296
Trespass	38	29	48	44	22	15	13

Complete list of Law Total Incident Report, by Reported Offense available upon request.

(rpjlasr.x1)

Arrests	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Arrest	93	135	141	130	75	82	81

Offenses Charged	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Felony (Offenses)	26	35	31	23	12	15	12
Misdemeanor (Offenses)	68	134	146	155	70	75	71
Total Charged Offenses	94	169	177	178	82	90	83

Dispatch

Calls for Service by Day of Week (rpcdcdt.x1)

2018	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	2018 Total
	461	520	540	573	543	577	569	3,783

2019	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	2019 Total
	491	527	518	615	546	652	594	3,943

2020	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	2020 Total
	436	595	674	655	625	574	560	4,119

2021	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	2021 Total
	516	498	530	537	508	543	623	3,755

2022	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	2022 Total
	382	488	470	498	504	493	521	3,356

2023	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	2023 Total
	462	451	520	482	475	486	535	3,411

2024	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	2024 Total
	402	513	530	473	511	599	488	3,516

Total Dispatch Center Calls for Service (rpcdtccr.x1)

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
3,783	3,943	4,119	3,755	3,356	3,411	3,516

Petersburg Jail

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Bookings	82	105	119	104	70	88	80
Days Served in Jail (rpjldsr.x1)	271	466	464	524	288	309	289

Petersburg Volunteer Fire Department



2024 Year End Report



PETERSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT



P.O. Box 329/1200 Haugen Dr, Petersburg, AK 99833

907-772-3355

To: Petersburg Borough Assembly
Cc: Stephen Giesbrecht, Borough Manager
Subj: PVFD 2024 Year End report

Petersburg Assembly Members,

I am happy to present to you Petersburg Volunteer Fire Department's 2024 year end report. At the beginning of 2024, we changed some of the data collection we were gathering to get a better picture of our response statistics throughout the year. We aim to use this data to strengthen our response to the varied emergencies we get called out to face.

2024 gave us a few hurdles to overcome with the resignation of our EMS Coordinator, changes within the officer corps, new regulations and aging equipment. Thankfully, with new leadership and staff in place, new recruits, and with help from the Title 3 USFS receipts we are looking like we are in a little better shape going into 2025. Overall, we have gained in membership 4 additional Firefighters, 14 Ambulance Drivers (with 11 slated to become EMT -1's after they test) and SAR membership held about even throughout the year. Please see my notes at the end of this report.

Responses for Fire, EMS, and Search and Rescue are down from 2023, but within normal fluctuations based on previous trends. Response times remain on average with the exception of the summer months where coverage remained spotty. We hope with our new recruits to be able to fill the gaps. We also foresee future challenges in obtaining supporting grants from the State of Alaska and FEMA and appreciate the opportunity to work with the Assembly going into the future to overcome regulatory and financial challenges that affect our mission of protecting life and property in Petersburg.

Should you have questions regarding this report, please do not hesitate to reach out.

With regards,

Aaron Hankins
Emergency Services Director
ahankins@petersburgak.gov

PVFD Leadership 2025

Paid Staff

Aaron Hankins
Emergency Services Director

Ryan Welde
Fire Marshall

Coby Holder
EMS Coordinator

Volunteer Chiefs

Daniel Bird

Fire Chief

David Berg
Assistant Chief /PIO

Troy Thynes
Assistant Chief

James Stolpe
Assistant Chief

Fire Officers

Devren Bennett
Fire Captain

Bjorn Stolpe
Fire Lieutenant

Brock Martin
Fire Lieutenant

Nicolas Espeseth
Fire Lieutenant

EMS Officers

Vacant
EMS Captain

Sarah Wright
EMS Lieutenant

Vacant
EMS Lieutenant

Search and Rescue Officers

Vacant
SAR Captain

Bjorn Stolpe
SAR Lieutenant

Bret Uppencamp
SAR Lieutenant

Stations and other locations

Station 1 – Fire Hall, 1200 Haugen Drive

- Paid Staff offices located here
- 2 bedrooms for responders on call.
- Primary meeting place for meetings and drills
- Houses both Ambulances, Engines 2,4 and 8, the “Squad-1” Mini pumper, SAR truck and Admin SUV
- Fire Radio repeaters, Ham Radio, and back up Dispatch equipment and Siren controls are housed here.
- 1 100kw backup generator on-site for emergency power
- Most likely to respond from Station 1 due to proximity to town and location of responders when toned out



Station 2 – Scow Bay Fire Station, 290 Mitkof Hwy

- Located in the Scow Bay turnaround, across from DOT
- Unmanned station, currently protects the far edges of SA1 from 2 mile out and beyond SA1.
- Houses Engine 6 and the Water Tender, also the 3 antique vehicles.
- Also stores additional training props and equipment inside the station.
- Behind the station is the Burn Tower and Container Prop.
- Ideally located away from residential areas when training with live burns.
- Responders who respond here typically work or live out here, or someone drives from intown to this station.



Harbor Sheds – North, South and Middle Harbors

- Each Harbor has a fire shed with one ATV and at least one trailer with portable pumps and hoses ready to deploy for boat fires.
- Middle Harbor also stores equipment for off island response.
- Harbors also have standpipes for water supplied from responding engines.

EOC Building – 16 N 12th St.

- The Emergency Communications Trailer and shelter supplies are stored here
- Contains 105 Cots, 158 Blankets, 150 Pillows, 275 hygiene kits, FM/AM radios, First Aid Kits, Misc MRE type food (7,800 servings).



(Engines 8, 4, 6 alongside Medics 1 and 2. Squad 1 is also on the far left.)

Vehicle Details

Fire Engines

- In General:
 - Each Engine is rated to pump a minimum of 1250 gallons of water at 150 PSI
 - Carries 750 gallons of water onboard
 - Carries 650 ft of 5" large Diameter hose
 - Has at least 2 1 3/4 inch preconnected hoses for quick deployment
 - Has both deck gun or "Master Stream" and a deployable ground monitor for defensive and quick attack operations
 - Carries enough SCBA packs for the officer and 4 firefighters and one set of additional air tanks
- Engine 2 - 2023 Pierce Saber Pumper – 4,723 mi / 179 hrs
 - Carries one engineer, officer, and 4 firefighters
 - First Due for structure fires, carries saws, fans and tools for searching.
- Engine 4 - 2007 Pierce Saber Pumper – 9,137 mi / 856 hrs
 - Carries one engineer, officer, and 4 firefighters
 - First Due for vehicle fires and MVA's, carries extrication equipment.
- Engine 8 - 2001 Pierce Saber Pumper - 12,678 mi / 1,252 hrs
 - Carries one engineer, officer, and 4 firefighters
 - Second due for all fire calls, carries additional sets of tools for different types of response.
- Engine 6 - 1994 Pierce Saber Pumper 15,178 mi / 1,391 hrs
 - Carries one engineer, officer, and 3 firefighters
 - First Due for the Scow Bay area and out past the hydrant system. Alternatively, if a team is unable to assemble at Scow Bay, Engine 6 will stand in for an engine that travels out the road.
 - Currently up for replacement but has been deferred to 2028 to allow for more savings to build up.

Ambulances

- Medic 1 – 2018 Ford F450 XLT Brawn NW Ambulance – 6,521 Miles
 - Custom built ambulance box to fit underneath PMC ER overhang.
 - Seats 2 upfront, 6 passengers in the back
 - Outfitted with one power load cot and lift assist system
 - Primary ambulance since 2018
- Medic 2 – 2005 Ford F450 XLT Brawn NW Ambulance – 9,824 Miles
 - Custom built ambulance box to fit underneath PMC ER overhang.
 - Seats 2 upfront, 6 passengers in the back
 - Outfitted with one power load cot and lift assist system
 - Purchased with “Code Blue” funding in 2005.
 - Previously known as “Medic 1” until 2018.

Support Vehicles

- Squad 1 – 2003 Ford F550 Mini Pumper – 4,360 miles / 54 hrs (on pump)
 - Carries an auxiliary driven water pump, 4,000w genset and a hydraulic power pack for extrication tools and bumper mounted winch
 - Primarily used as a “rescue” truck assisting E-4 with MVA and vehicle fire responses
 - Useful for areas where the larger engines cannot travel due to weight restrictions or narrow roads.
 - Seats 2, and carries additional SCBA Packs and bottles
- Water Tender – 2004 International 7400 – 1,768 Mi / 272 hrs
 - Cab and chassis with a mounted 4,000-gallon tank.
 - Carries deployable, open topped water tank (porta-tank) for drafting water to engines.
 - Also carries 3in Honda trash pump for remote fill if needed.
 - Deployed to off hydrant areas and the airport to supply water where needed
- Admin SUV – 2015 Ford Expedition – 36,179 mi
 - Used by Paid staff for daily operations
 - Also used to transport personnel and additional equipment during emergencies
- Search and Rescue Truck – 2004 Ford F250 – 34,709 mi
 - Primarily used by Search and Rescue to deploy around Mitkof Island
 - Obtained through a Homeland Security grant in 2008
 - Sometimes used by paid staff to transfer equipment and plow snow and by responders during emergencies
 - Also used to move the Emergency Communications Trailer

- Harbor 4-Wheelers and Trailers – 3 ATV’s and 6 trailers
 - Located in fire sheds in each harbor
 - Trailers are preloaded with portable pumps and hose loads to protect the harbor
 - ATV’s can also be loaded onto Harbor Security Boat for response to Kupreanof. City of Kupreanof partially funded one ATV purchase.
 - ATV’s have also been used by SAR for missions off Mitkof Island where there are roads.
- Harbor Security Boat – 2006 32’ Drop Bow Skiff – 800.9 hrs (pt ob) / 800.2 (stb ob)
 - Located in the Middle Harbor
 - Twin 2012 200hp Yamaha outboards
 - Jointly owned/used by PPD, Harbor, and PVFD
 - Paid for mostly by grants in 2005(?) with contributions from the City of Kupreanof
 - Used for Fire Response in harbors and off island coastlines, Off-island EMS calls and Search and rescue missions.
- Communications Trailer – 2005 Wells Cargo Tandem Axle Trailer
 - Located in EOC building across from MVM-AL
 - Carries one radio repeater, repeater antenna, 4 VHF radios, one CB radio, 3,000w inverter and Onan 5kw generator.
 - Previously shared between PPD and PVFD. PPD released interest in 2023.
 - Paid for mostly by grants in 2008 that also paid for the SAR Truck
 - Used to extend communications in areas where radio reception is poor
 - Also used as a command post for SAR missions on island.
 - Repeater marginally repaired in 2024
 - 3,000w inverter replaced in 2023 with grant funding.
- 4 - 5,500 w Honda Generators
 - 2 located at MVM and 2 located at schools
 - Director’s note, I don’t have a lot of history on these other than that they exist. I am still working to run down the intended purpose as I have time. I theorize they would be used for emergency power during a prolonged power outage.



Response and Training Data

○ **Fire Branch – 34 Calls/ 35 Drills**

- Alarms - 16
- EMS Assists – 1 (skewed as FF’s are counted as EMS crew in run reports, actual is higher)
- Vehicle Fires - 1
- Moter Vehicle Accidents - 2
- Structure Fires - 3
- Power Pole Fires - 1
- Report of Smoke/Odor - 6
- Chimney Fires - 1
- Boat Fires - 1
- Boat Accidents - 1
- Burn Violation – 1

2 of these calls fell outside SA-1

In Total, Fire Branch had 290 Response hrs, 919 Normal Drill hrs, 95 extra training/event hrs, and 467 hours from an intro FF class. **The total donated hours from Fire Branch to the borough was 1,771 hours.**

Fire Branch ended 2024 with **34 Volunteers and 3 paid staff.**

○ **EMS Branch – 244 Calls / 24 Drills**

- Medical - 95
- Trauma - 11
- Fire Standby – 3
- Event Standby – 2
- Falls - 41
- Transports - 4

- Code Blue calls – 3**
- Cancelled - 2
- Stroke Alerts - 8
- Mass Casualty Incidents - 0
- Medivacs - 67
- Motor Vehicle accidents – 4***
- Drug Overdoses - 4

10 Calls occurred outside SA-1 **Code Blue refers to patients with immediate threats to life
 *** MVA numbers here refer to the number of PT's encountered due to MVA's

In Total, EMS Branch had 683 response hrs, 308 drill hrs, 52 extra training/event hrs, 1,540 hrs from an EMT initial class. **The total donated hours from EMS branch to the borough were 1,900 hours.**

EMS ended 2024 with **5 ETTs, 3 EMT-1s, 9 EMT-2s and 18 Ambulance Drivers** (11 of which will be EMT-1s soon). **EMS has a total of 34 Volunteers and 3 paid staff.**

- Search and Rescue Branch – 7 Calls/ 24 Drills
 - 4 search calls
 - 3 EMS assists

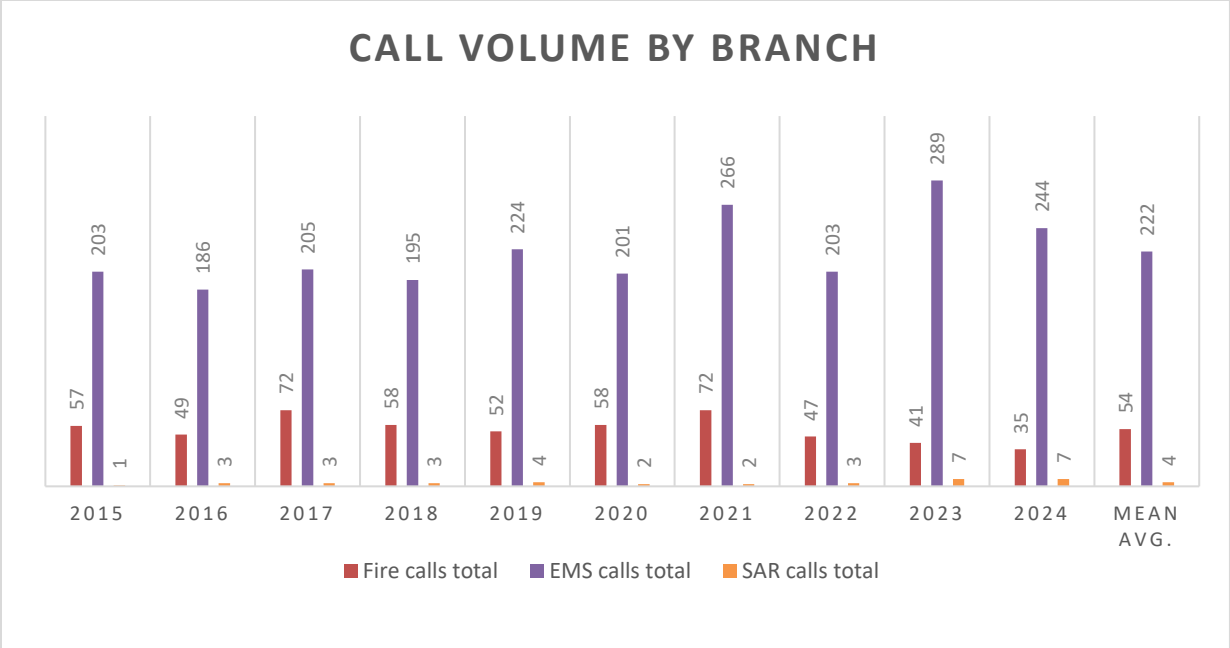
In Total, SAR Branch had 56 response hrs, 18 assist hrs, 50 extra training/event hrs, and 386 training hrs. **The total donated hours from SAR Branch to the borough was 492 hours.**

SAR Branch ended 2024 with **34 Volunteers and 1 paid staff.**

17 SAR Members are trained as Wilderness First Responders.

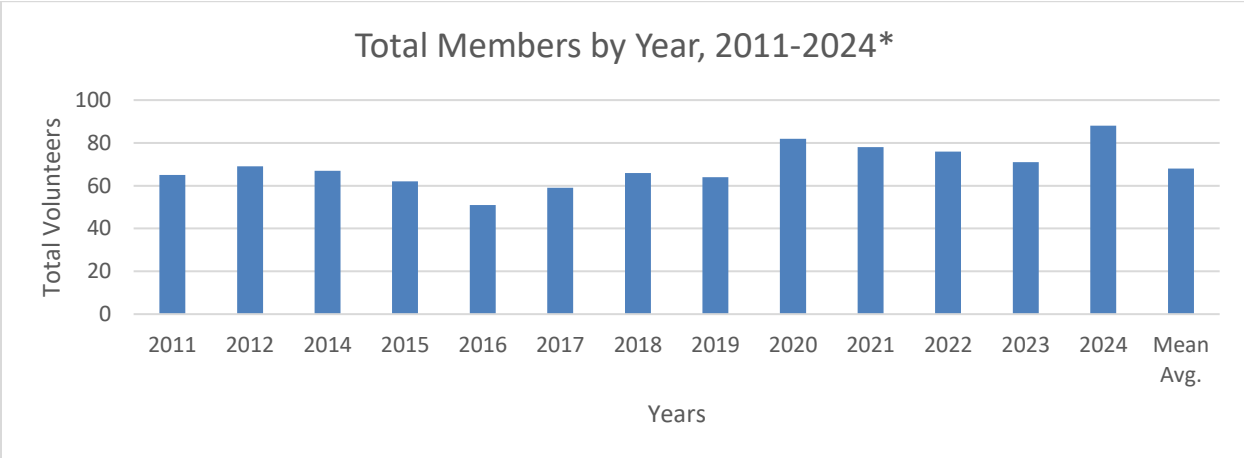
Total Donated Hours – 4,163 hours.

Year to Year Comparisons



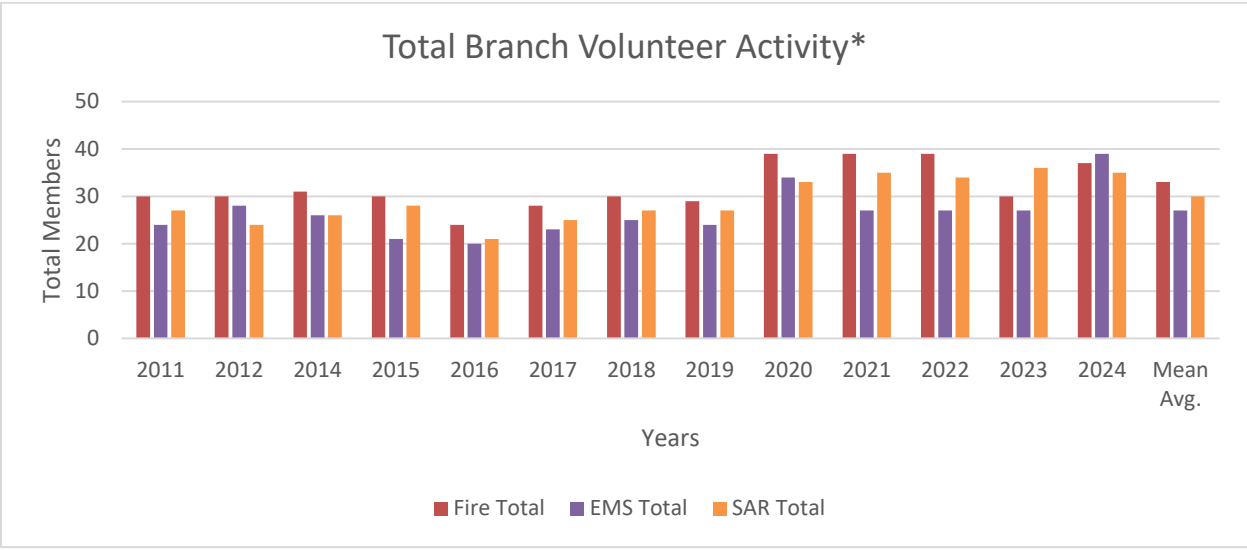
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Mean Avg.
Fire calls total	57	49	72	58	52	58	72	47	41	35	54
EMS calls total	203	186	205	195	224	201	266	203	289	244	222
SAR calls total	1	3	3	3	4	2	2	3	7	7	4

Membership Statistics



	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Mean Avg.
Total Members	65	69	-	67	62	51	59	66	64	82	78	76	71	88	68

This Chart outlines total roster count by end of calendar year. 2016 was the lowest at 51 members, 2024 was the highest at 88 due to a high volume of recruits at the end of the year. This graph does not account for losses or gains throughout the year. 2013 did not have a reliable data set to include.



	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Mean Avg.
Fire Total	30	30	-	31	30	24	28	30	29	39	39	39	30	37	33
EMS Total	24	28	-	26	21	20	23	25	24	34	27	27	27	39	27
SAR Total	27	24	-	26	28	21	25	27	27	33	35	34	36	35	30

*No reliable data found for 2013 membership

This chart breaks down total involvement by branch. While mostly stable, EMS shows a large increase in

Discipline	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Mean Avg.
Fire	19	17	-	17	15	11	13	16	14	20	22	21	17	20	17
EMS	13	18	-	13	6	6	9	11	11	18	12	11	12	20	12
SAR	20	20	-	23	23	20	21	25	24	23	24	23	25	18	23
Fire/EMS	6	10	-	11	11	13	12	12	12	11	9	10	6	9	11
Fire/SAR	2	1	-	1	1	0	2	0	2	5	5	5	2	5	3
EMS/SAR	2	1	-	0	1	1	1	0	0	2	3	3	4	8	2
Fire/EMS/SAR	3	2	-	2	3	0	1	2	1	3	3	3	5	4	3
Total Members	65	69	-	67	62	51	59	66	64	82	78	76	71	88	70

*No reliable data found for 2013 membership

numbers due to our revamped ambulance driver program.

This chart breaks down individual member involvement in the 3 branches of the fire department. Very few can offer to do more than one branch due to the time commitment of training and response. Regardless of how many branches a volunteer is involved in, I remain grateful for their efforts.

Notes on membership:

While roster numbers are up, the majority (**63%**) of the department is made up of members who have been in the department 5 years or less (56 members, 27 of these are new this year). Another 11

members **(12.5%)** have been in 10 years or less. The First Responder services in general continue to exhibit a high attrition rate. Petersburg is no exception. Though I am excited for our recent new members, the likelihood is less than half will still be involved within a few years. PVFD officers and staff remain committed to try and bolster our retention rate and will be calling on the Borough to aid in those efforts through a request for volunteer stipends, continued support in acquiring needed equipment and letters of support when applying for grants, writing to the state and feds to support rural fire departments and attracting younger members to the community to be able to recruit.

Additional details and considerations:

It is worth noting that there are 8,760 hours in a single calendar year. With the volunteers donated hours pooled together, it would equate to a member of the department spending 47.5% of the calendar year responding, training to respond, or participating in a community event.

In 2022's report, I outlined that PVFD would need 12 paid staff to cover the majority of the incidents the current members respond to. In that report, I used \$25/ hr as yard stick to estimate how much the borough would need to pay in order to field that many staff (Using Info from the National Volunteer Fire council), The total number including the cost of benefits was **\$94,900/employee or \$1,138,800 for 12 employees**. For large events, the 12 staff would still need to be supported by volunteers.

To put a direct value to PVFD's contributions, aside from the value of the paid staff they replace and revenue from ambulance fees, **if the volunteers had been paid \$25/hr, their combined time would be worth a donated cost of \$104,075.**

With extreme gratitude for our volunteers, I submit this 2024 report detailing their efforts.

Aaron Hankins, Emergency Services Director.

Debra Thompson

From: Dave Thynes <fvnocona@gmail.com>
Date: January 29, 2025 at 12:48:57 PM AKST
To: James Kerr <jkerr@petersburgak.gov>
Cc: Tanya Thynes <tthynes@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Scheduling for upcoming public safety board meetings

External Email! Use Caution

Thank you for replying Jim,

The first issue we are wondering about is providing lighting dedicated specifically to the crosswalks that cross Dolphin Street directly in front of the Rae C. Stedman elementary school east and west entrances. There are crossing guards for each crosswalk but inevitably, contrary to school policy, there are students that arrive before the crossing guard's are supposed to be on duty. During the winter months, that stretch of Dolphin Street is very dark when students arrive and leave school. It would be a very effective, comparatively low-cost safety measure to provide lighting that is centered on each of the two crosswalks and possibly flashing amber lights as a reminder for drivers to be very alert while driving through while dropping children off.

To illustrate the risks involved to both kids and adults, I'd like to offer my own recent experience. Friday January 24th, I was nearly struck by a vehicle while I was crossing in the west crosswalk before school started. It was dark, I was wearing dark colored clothing and the driver admitted they were distracted but I was able to jump out of the way of the vehicle before being struck. The driver found me at home shortly after the incident and offered an extremely sincere apology but I couldn't help thinking that it would only take one accident involving a vehicle striking a child in these crosswalks to lose this entire initiative at a price that could be immeasurably more costly to our community than providing better lighting.

The second issue concerns adding four-way stops to Ira II Street. The length of Ira II Street from 2nd Street to Eighth Street has no stop signs interrupting traffic running east and west. We live at the corner of 6th Street & Ira II Street and we have witnessed many vehicles that drive excessively fast along our Ira II Street frontage; our concern is centered on increasing the safety of the kids & other pedestrians walking in our neighborhood by

detering the likelihood of speeding. We propose adding four-way stops along this stretch of road to interrupt the traffic flow to help decrease the likelihood of speeding along Ira II Street.

With the density of housing in this area and the high percentage of younger families living south of Ira II St., we'd like to ask about establishing four-way stops at the intersections of both 4th Street & Ira II Street and 6th Street & Ira II Street, much like the intersections of 3rd and 5th streets with Excel and Fram Streets.

We believe any impacts to slowing traffic flow along Ira II St. would be easily mitigated by drivers simply choosing to use Haugen Drive (only one block north of Ira II St.) as an arterial-style road rather than using Ira II St. if a more uninterrupted traffic flow is desired. Installing four-way stops at 4th & Ira II St. and 6th and Ira II St. would offer a higher level of safety to children walking to and from school in the neighborhoods south of Ira II St. by forcing traffic to stop in all directions at these two locations. We are also hoping another possible by-product of adding these new stops could be reducing the temptation to drive at unsafe speeds along the length of Ira II Street.

Please share our concerns with the board and let us know when the board would like to discuss our ideas.

Thank you Jim,
Dave and Tanya Thynes

Debra Thompson

From: Dave Thynes <fvnocona@gmail.com>
Date: January 29, 2025 at 12:48:57 PM AKST
To: James Kerr <jkerr@petersburgak.gov>
Cc: Tanya Thynes <tthynes@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Scheduling for upcoming public safety board meetings

External Email! Use Caution

Thank you for replying Jim,

The first issue we are wondering about is providing lighting dedicated specifically to the crosswalks that cross Dolphin Street directly in front of the Rae C. Stedman elementary school east and west entrances. There are crossing guards for each crosswalk but inevitably, contrary to school policy, there are students that arrive before the crossing guard's are supposed to be on duty. During the winter months, that stretch of Dolphin Street is very dark when students arrive and leave school. It would be a very effective, comparatively low-cost safety measure to provide lighting that is centered on each of the two crosswalks and possibly flashing amber lights as a reminder for drivers to be very alert while driving through while dropping children off.

To illustrate the risks involved to both kids and adults, I'd like to offer my own recent experience. Friday January 24th, I was nearly struck by a vehicle while I was crossing in the west crosswalk before school started. It was dark, I was wearing dark colored clothing and the driver admitted they were distracted but I was able to jump out of the way of the vehicle before being struck. The driver found me at home shortly after the incident and offered an extremely sincere apology but I couldn't help thinking that it would only take one accident involving a vehicle striking a child in these crosswalks to lose this entire initiative at a price that could be immeasurably more costly to our community than providing better lighting.

The second issue concerns adding four-way stops to Ira II Street. The length of Ira II Street from 2nd Street to Eighth Street has no stop signs interrupting traffic running east and west. We live at the corner of 6th Street & Ira II Street and we have witnessed many vehicles that drive excessively fast along our Ira II Street frontage; our concern is centered on increasing the safety of the kids & other pedestrians walking in our neighborhood by

detering the likelihood of speeding. We propose adding four-way stops along this stretch of road to interrupt the traffic flow to help decrease the likelihood of speeding along Ira II Street.

With the density of housing in this area and the high percentage of younger families living south of Ira II St., we'd like to ask about establishing four-way stops at the intersections of both 4th Street & Ira II Street and 6th Street & Ira II Street, much like the intersections of 3rd and 5th streets with Excel and Fram Streets.

We believe any impacts to slowing traffic flow along Ira II St. would be easily mitigated by drivers simply choosing to use Haugen Drive (only one block north of Ira II St.) as an arterial-style road rather than using Ira II St. if a more uninterrupted traffic flow is desired. Installing four-way stops at 4th & Ira II St. and 6th and Ira II St. would offer a higher level of safety to children walking to and from school in the neighborhoods south of Ira II St. by forcing traffic to stop in all directions at these two locations. We are also hoping another possible by-product of adding these new stops could be reducing the temptation to drive at unsafe speeds along the length of Ira II Street.

Please share our concerns with the board and let us know when the board would like to discuss our ideas.

Thank you Jim,
Dave and Tanya Thynes